has been taken up with the concerned State Government through State level bankers' committee.

In some of the places it has been reported that banks have been insisting for collateral security for issuing KCC. NABARD has advised the banks to strictly adhere to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines in this regard.

New drug policy

3351. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 192, given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st March, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the new drug policy would help to bring in new investments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how the common man would derive benefit out of this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Pharmaceutical Policy-2002 provides that foreign investment upto 100% will be permitted, subject to stipulations laid down from time to time in the Industrial Policy, through the automatic route in the case of all bulk drugs cleared by Drug Controller General (India), all their intermediates and formulations except in the case of bulk drugs produced by the use of recombinant DNA technology, bulk drugs requiring in-vivo use of nucleic acids as the active principles and specific cell/tissue targeted formulations. This has been done with a view to further liberalising the foreign direct investment regime. The main objectives of this Policy are, *inter alia*, ensuring abundant availability at reasonable prices within the country of good quality essential pharmaceuticals of mass consumption and strengthening the indigenous capability for cost effective quality production.

Quality test of drugs

†3352. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the existing arrangement for conducting quality test of drugs at factory-level manufactured by the drug manufacturing companies;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.